

SD MEDX

South Dakota Medical Electronic Data Exchange SD Department of Social Services

Q. What is an MMIS?

A. MMIS stands for Medicaid Management Information System. It is a computer system that manages medical assistance information and payments. All states are required by federal law to have an MMIS.

Q. What is SD MEDX and what does it do?

A. The South Dakota Department of Social Services is replacing the current Medicaid Management Information System with a new Medicaid management system we have named South Dakota Medical Electronic Data Exchange (SD MEDX). Our common goal is a system that enhances our ability to meet the needs of the individuals we serve, offers more efficient claims and payment processes, enables access to the information most useful to our providers and recipients, and helps us to more effectively manage Medicaid operations. When fully operational, it will be utilized by about 10,600 providers who serve more than 130,000 people annually.

SD MEDX is being developed with unprecedented cross-administration support within DSS, other related State agencies, and our provider community. To date, more than 200 State employees have participated in discussion on requirements for the system and design. The State teams are working with the project's contractor, CNSI, which is based in Rockville, Maryland.

With online access, SD MEDX offers significant benefits for providers and recipients. Providers will be able to submit claims at any time, have them processed in minutes, monitor payment status, and check recipient eligibility. Additionally, recipients will have the ability to access information online including eligibility, claims information, provider listings, specialty details, and contact information.

Q. When will SD MEDX be implemented and how much will it cost?

A. The SD MEDX project began in July 2008 and will be implemented in 2010, at a projected total cost of approximately \$62 million (90 percent Federal and 10 percent State split). Prior to system implementation, all providers will be required to re-validate their information in SD MEDX. Provider re-validation will begin in spring 2010.

Q. Why did South Dakota develop a new MMIS?

A. The current MMIS is nearly 30 years old. The technology is outdated and costly to maintain. Since its certification in 1981, the current MMIS has undergone several system modifications in an effort to extend the life of the system, but it continues to have shortcomings that only a new system can address. The new system will allow for online claims adjudication, effective and useful reporting, monitoring and data projection, increased payment accuracy and most importantly, improved customer services to the individuals we serve.

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Q. Who will benefit from the new system?

A. A new MMIS benefits everyone who relies on it for services.

- 130,000 Medicaid recipients throughout South Dakota
- 10,600 providers – hospitals, physicians, dentists, pharmacies, nursing homes and durable medical equipment suppliers, who provide South Dakota Medicaid services.

Q. What will happen if there are implementation problems?

A. The SD MEDX project is very large and complex. As with any computer conversion of this size, implementation is likely to be less than perfect. The Department of Social Services and its vendors have planned for all possible situations, and have contingency plans in place to deal with them, in order to minimize problems faced by providers and recipients.

Q. How can I learn more about SD MEDX?

A. The SD MEDX project has established a SD MEDX Readiness Listserv dedicated to readiness activities. The project will send status updates, information on outreach opportunities and training events. Please pass this link on to anyone that may be interested in receiving updates on SD MEDX readiness activities. You may join or leave this listserv at anytime.

To join:

- Visit <http://listserv.state.sd.us/archives/sdmedx.html>
- Subscribe by clicking on the 'Join or Leave List' Link.

OR

- Contact Nicole.Beck@state.sd.us to be added to the listserv.

Q. Who can I contact with questions concerning the SD MEDX Project?

A. For questions concerning the SD MEDX project please contact:

SD MEDX Stakeholder/Provider Relations Lead: Nicole Beck
Nicole.Beck@state.sd.us or (605) 773-4414

SD MEDX Stakeholder/Provider Relations Manager: Angie Bren
Angie.Bren@state.sd.us or (605) 773-8543

**More information on SD MEDX will be posted at
www.dss.sd.gov/sdmedx as it becomes available.**